

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 13-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 16-18

I. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

Claims 1-11 and 13-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,078,274 to Inou in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,326,723 B1 to Raj et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The applied art does not teach, disclose or suggest that the surfaces of the projections that are provided on both of the pair of transparent electrodes are formed from the transparent electrodes, as claimed in claim 1 and similarly claimed in claims 16-18.

In contrast, Inou merely discloses that the projections are formed from insulating film and the insulating film is formed on the transparent electrodes 2a and 2b. Please see at least column 4, lines 42-43 of Inou. Accordingly, the surfaces of the projections 8 are not formed from transparent electrodes. As shown in Figures 13-22 of Inou, the transparent electrodes 2a and 2b do not have projections, they merely have apertures 18.

The features of the independent claims recited above of the surface of the projections are formed from the transparent electrodes, is at least disclosed and discussed in the present application in Figures 4 and 9 and paragraph [0030] and [0058]. Raj does not make up for the deficiencies of Inou discussed above.

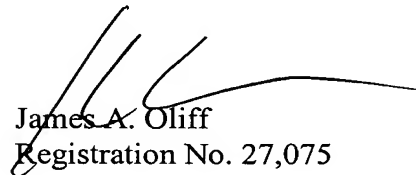
For at least the reasons outlined above, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-11 and 13-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious in view of Inou and Raj is respectfully solicited.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Kevin M. McKinley
Registration No. 43,794

JAO:KMM/jfb

Date: June 27, 2005

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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